

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CU-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 /050 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7114

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 0601

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SN

SUBJECT: GOS DETAINS LEFTIST LAWYER

1. G. RAMAN, LEFT-WING LAWYER, WAS DETAINED UNDER THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT ON FEBRUARY 10. GOVERNMENT STATEMENT NOTES THAT RAMAN WAS LEGAL ADVISER TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE'S STUDENT UNION (USSU) (1971-1976) AND HELPED ORGANIZE AND COORDINATE DISSIDENT ELEMENTS. STATEMENT CONCLUDES THAT "RAMAN HAS BECOME THE COMMUNICATION CENTER AND LINK MAN BETWEEN THE LOCAL PRO-COMMUNISTS AND THE EURO-COMMUNISTS... THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT ALLOW PRO-COMMUNIST ELEMENTS LIKE G. RAMAN TO RUN AROUND AIDING AND ABETTING THE COMMUNISTS". FULL TEXT OF STATEMENT BEING POUCHED.

2. JANUARY 1975 BIO FILE NOTES RAMAN " IS QUITE CRITICAL OF THE GOS... HIS POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW SEEMS TO BE MORE THAT OF A LEFT-LIBERAL THAN OF A DOCTRINAIRE MARXIST."

3. COMMENT. WHILE GOS MAY EVENTUALLY ADVANCE CLAIM AND PRODUCE PROOF THAT RAMAN IS COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA (CPM) CADRE OR MEMBER OF CPM-FRONT GROUP, AVAILABLE EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT RAMAN MAY BE A FAR-LLEFT LIBERAL WHO IS SYMPATHETIC TO SUBVERSIVES DETAINED UNDER THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT. WHILE THIS CASE MAY PROVE TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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EXCEPTION TO GENERAL RULE, GOS COULD BE EXPANDING ANTI-SUBVERSION EFFORT INTO THE GREY AREA OF LEFT-WING INTELLECTUALS. CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE HANDLING OF THE PRESS RELEASE ON THIS CASE REVEAL DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL ISD PROCEDURES WHICH MAY INDICATE INTERNAL CONTROVERSY OVER DECISION TO DETAIN.
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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